

Minutes of the Gabriel Project Meeting of 5/14/20 (Updated 5/20/20)

Attendees: Members: Aleyda, Alicia, Anne, Carly, Debra, Kathy, Roseann, Yolanda
Guests: Nancy and Rosemary

Meeting Held via Zoom On-Line Meeting Application

Welcome and Opening Prayer – Memorare (Aleyda)

- **TGP Updates**

- ❖ A couple of clients, *the first clients from our own parish*, are in the process of adopting their grandson (a newborn) and they have been provided with a *Welcome Baby Basket* from our ministry, which was put together and given to the clients by Yolanda and Aleyda. Another client couple (whose adoption of 6 beautiful children was recently finalized) has also provided some unused items for our newest clients.
- ❖ Roseann is the angel to another new client, an acquaintance of Roseann's, whose baby, a boy, is due on June 12th. Roseann provided a bassinet to the client and a TGP *Welcome Baby Basket*, stroller and car seat will also be provided.

- **“Welcome Baby Basket” Supplies and Fundraising Efforts**

- ❖ Yolanda reported that we are currently running short on clothing and on other basket items for boys, as well as on items of a neutral color. Yolanda will check with Father to see if we can put a request in the Church bulletin for monetary donations so we can purchase more of these items and she will also ask Father if we can place envelopes near the side entrance to make it easier for folks to donate funds to TGP for the purchase of these items.
- ❖ Due to the Corona Virus outbreak and restrictions on gatherings and social distancing requirements, we may not be able to have our annual Yard Sale Fundraiser on August 1st. If we are prevented from doing that, we need to plan for other ways in which we can raise funds. Perhaps a “virtual gala” is a possibility.

- **New TGP Procedures**

- ❖ The Helpline that clients call to reach TGP headquarters is not in Oakland anymore; the calls are now being answered by TGP operators located in Sacramento. The information is then relayed from the Sacramento operators to the TGP parish coordinators in the participating parishes.
- ❖ Aleyda presented two flowcharts of the new structure at the meeting and will provide members with a copy of each chart. The first flowchart represents the flow of a referral coming from the Helpline and the second flowchart represents the flow of the referral coming from “other sources”.
- ❖ Mike Ronco, the Director of The Gabriel Project of California and Claudia Beigel, Project Coordinator, have requested that the TGP parish coordinators send them some information on the referrals received, and eventually some additional information on how TGP from St. Mary's was able to help those clients.
- ❖ When Masses resume, Michael Ronco will come and speak at the various participating Churches to discuss TGP needs and recruitment.
- ❖ In this time of social distancing because of the Corona Virus outbreak, members (coordinators, angels and assistant angels) will not be meeting with clients face-to-face. We will attempt to meet with clients via video conference. We also need to request an ID from a potential client and proof of pregnancy, due to recent issues some parishes with TGP Ministries have had. As proof of pregnancy, we will look for something such as a copy of an ultrasound, or written proof of pregnancy from a doctor.
- ❖ There was also some discussion about tracking the cost of items provided to each client in an attempt to make “the help” more uniform, though it was noted that needs can vary greatly from

client to client. Aleyda and Yolanda will send a copy of the newly revised TGP guidelines to each of the members.

- **Attendees from St. Basil's Parish**

Yolanda asked Rosemary if the St. Basil's group would like to proceed with establishing a separate TGP ministry at St. Basil's, or to remain joined with the St. Mary's TGP group.

If the St. Basil's folks remain with the St. Mary's TGP group, the members from St. Basil's would serve the clients in the southern part of Solano County and the members from St. Mary's would serve the clients in the northern part of the County. Rosemary thought that the group may prefer the second option (remaining joined to St. Mary's), but would discuss the proposal with her group and let us know the upshot of their discussion.

Closing Remarks and Prayer – Mary, Help of Those in Need (Yolanda)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:05